

VIII.—A New *Begonia* from Borneo. By
H. N. RIDLEY, C.M.G., F.R.S.

A VERY pretty new *Begonia* was obtained on Mt. Kinabalu recently (October, 1913), by Mr. Moulton, and brought down alive to Kuching, where I saw it in cultivation. It gives me great pleasure to name it after Mrs. J. C. Moulton, whose kind hospitality I enjoyed during my recent stay in Kuching.

Begonia Beryllæ, sp. nov.

Herba ad 4 pedes crescens, erecta. Folia ovata, obtusa, basi rotundata, inæquilateralia 4 poll. longa, 2·25 poll. lata, glabra, nervis rubris 8, margine undulato, petiolo rubro 0·5 poll. longo. Flores paniculati, plures; panicula multiramosa, fere sessilis, 1·5–2 poll. longa. Bracteæ binæ, obovatæ, truncatæ, medio dente instructæ, albæ vel viridescenti-albæ, 0·25 poll. longæ, glabræ. Flores masculi plures, 0·5 poll. lati, albi. Sepala 2, elliptica, obtusa, 0·25 poll. lata. Petala 2, anguste linearia. Stamina perparva, circiter 15, fere ad basem libera, antheris oblongis obtusis. Flores feminei 2–3 in ramis paniculæ inferioribus. Ovarium 0·3 poll. longum, 0·25 poll. latum, alis æqualibus haud multo elevatis. Sepala et petala subæqualia, 4 (vel 5), 0·25 poll. longa, alba. Stigmata haud ramosa, contorta.

Borneo: Mt. Kinabalu ad 4600–5000 pedes altitudinis.

This charming plant was found on high rocky banks of Kinabalu at from 4600 to 5000 ft. altitude. The stem, branching and almost woody, though not very stout, attained a height of about 3 ft. The ovate blunt leaves have an unequal rounded base, and are 4 in. long and 2½ in. wide, of a smooth, light green and quite glabrous; the veins are bright red beneath, as is the petiole. The leaves are crowded at the tip of the stem. The small but numerous

white flowers are crowded in short panicles, the females being two or three in number on branches at the base. Each flower has a pair of oblong white bracts with a short central tooth; so that this plant belongs to the *Bractebegoniæ* group. The male flowers, only $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, have two outer sepals and two narrow inner ones and few stamens. The female flowers usually have the sepals and petals nearly equal, the petals slightly falcate but otherwise similar to the sepals, and an extra narrow petal. The fruit is shield-shaped in outline, narrowed to the base, above wide, truncate, with the outer angles blunt, the three wings equal and very narrow.

The plant is most nearly allied to *B. Havilandii*, Ridl., in its white bracts and in the form of flowers, but differs in its completely glabrous habit and its tall erect stems.